

Chapter 3.1 Composting Operations Regulatory Requirements**Article 1. General****Section 17850. Authority and Scope.**

(a) This Chapter is adopted pursuant to and for the purpose of implementing the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Act) commencing with Section 40000 of the Public Resources Code, as amended. These regulations should be read together with the Act.

(b) This Chapter implements those provisions of the Act relating to composting. Nothing in this Chapter is intended to limit the power of any federal, state, or local agency to enforce any provision of law that it is authorized or required to enforce or administer.

(c) Biological decomposition of organic material can be both a naturally occurring or artificially controlled process. Nothing in this Chapter is intended to establish standards or other regulatory requirements for market products. This Chapter establishes standards and regulatory requirements for intentional and inadvertent composting resulting from the storage or handling of organic materials feedstock, compost, or chipped and ground materials. ~~An activity that produces material that will be sold or given away based on biological decomposition that has occurred to the material shall not be considered inadvertent composting.~~

(d) Nothing in these standards shall be construed as relieving any owner, operator, or designee from the obligation of obtaining all required permits, licenses, or other clearances and complying with all orders, laws, regulations, or reports, or other requirements of other regulatory or enforcement agencies, including but not limited to, local health entities, regional water quality control boards, air quality management districts or air pollution control districts, local land use authorities, and fire authorities.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

Section 17852. Definitions.

For the purposes of this Chapter:

(a) "Active Compost" means compost feedstock that is in the process of being rapidly decomposed and is unstable. Active compost is generating temperatures of at least 50 degrees Celsius (122 degrees Fahrenheit) during decomposition; and is releasing carbon dioxide at a rate of at least 15 milligrams per gram of compost per day, or the equivalent of oxygen uptake.

(b) "Additives" means material mixed with feedstock or active compost in order to adjust the moisture level, carbon to nitrogen ratio, or porosity to create a favorable condition. Additives

1 include, but are not limited to, fertilizers and urea. Additives
2 do not include septage, sewage, or compost feedstock.

3 (c) "Aerated Static Pile" means a composting process that uses
4 an air distribution system to either blow or draw air through the
5 pile. Little or no pile agitation or turning is performed.

6 (d) "Aerobic Decomposition" means the biological decomposition
7 of organic substances in the presence of oxygen.

8 (e) "Agricultural Commodities" or "Agricultural Materials"
9 means the products of farms and ranches and items processed from
10 these products, as defined in Division 21, Part 2, Chapter 1,
11 Section 58619 of the Food and Agricultural Code, including any
12 agricultural, horticultural, aquacultural, silvicultural,
13 floricultural, vermicultural, or viticultural product.

14 (f) "Agricultural Material Composting Operation" means an
15 operation that processes green and animal materials derived from
16 agricultural commodities, additives, and/or amendments into
17 compost. "Agricultural Material Composting Operation" does not
18 include activities excluded from regulation in Section 17855.

19 "Agricultural Material Composting Operations" include operations
20 that use clean green material, as defined in Subdivision (k) of
21 this Section, if the clean green material portion does not exceed
22 the agricultural commodities portion of active compost on-site
23 annually.

24 (g) "Amendments" means materials added to stabilized or cured
25 compost to provide attributes for certain compost products, such
26 as product bulk, product nutrient value, product pH, and soils
27 blend. Amendments do not include septage, sewage, or compost
28 feedstock.

1 (h) "Anaerobic Decomposition" means the biological
2 decomposition of organic substances in the absence of oxygen.

3 (i) "Animal Material" means any material derived from animal
4 products that are for consumption by humans or animals. The
5 sources of these products include, but are not limited to,
6 agriculture, food manufacturing and processing industries,
7 restaurants, hospitals, and food distributors. "Animal Material"
8 is either separated at the point of generation, or separated at a
9 centralized facility that employs methods to minimize
10 contamination. The composting of mammalian flesh, organs,
11 unprocessed hide, blood, bone and marrow is prohibited, except
12 when from the food service industry. Animal material does not
13 include manure.

14 (j) "Animal Material Composting Facility" is a facility that
15 processes animal material and additives and amendments into
16 compost. A facility that composts green material in addition to
17 animal material shall be considered an animal material composting
18 facility. "Animal Material Composting Facility" does not include
19 activities excluded from regulation in Section 17855, and
20 operations that constitute "Agricultural Material Composting
21 Operations."

22 ~~(l) (k) "Chipping and Grinding" means an activity that~~
23 ~~mechanically reduces the size of organic matter. Chipping and~~
24 ~~grinding shall not include activities that produce material that~~
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1 ~~will be sold or given away based on biological decomposition that~~
2 ~~has occurred to the material.~~

3 (k) (1) "Clean Green Material" or "Clean Green" means green
4 material that is processed by a permitted solid waste facility in
5 order to reduce contamination to the greatest extent possible as
6 set forth in Section 17868.4. Tree and landscape trimming
7 materials that have never been combined with other waste
8 materials are considered "Clean Green Materials."

9 (m) "Composting Facility" means a facility that is operated for
10 the purpose of producing compost, as defined in Division 30, Part
11 1, Chapter 2, Section 40116 of the Public Resources Code. A
12 "Composting Facility" includes:

13 (1) Green material composting facilities that have greater than
14 1,000 cubic yards of feedstock and active compost on-site at any
15 one time;

16 (2) Animal material composting facilities;

17 (3) Sewage sludge composting facilities; and

18 (4) Mixed solid waste composting facilities.

19 (n) "Composting Operation" means an operation that is operated
20 for the purpose of producing compost, as defined in Division 30,
21 Part 1, Chapter 2, Section 40116 of the Public Resources Code. A
22 composting operation is a solid waste handling operation that
23 does not constitute a composting facility that would require a
24 solid waste facilities permit. "Composting Operation" includes:

25 (1) Research operations;

26 (2) Agricultural material composting operations; and

27 (3) Green material operations that have up to 1,000 cubic yards
28 of feedstock and active compost on-site at any one time.

(o) "Composting Process" means one or a combination of the
following processes used to produce a compost product:

(1) windrow composting;

(2) aerated or non-aerated static pile composting;

(3) enclosed or within-vessel composting; and

(4) other processes approved by the enforcement agency, that
meet the requirements set forth in this Chapter.

(p) "Curing" means the final stage of the composting process
that occurs after compost has undergone pathogen reduction, as
described in Section 17868.3, and after most of the readily
metabolized material has been decomposed and stabilized.

(q) "Domestic Sewage" means waste and wastewater from humans or
household operations that is discharged to or otherwise enters a
treatment works.

(r) "Dry Weight Basis" means weight calculated on the basis of
having been dried until reaching a constant mass, that results in
essentially a 100 percent solids content.

(s) "Enclosed Composting Process" means a composting process
where the area that is used for the processing, composting,
stabilizing, and curing of organic materials, is covered on all
exposed sides and rests on a stable surface.

(t) "Feedstock" means any decomposable organic material used in
the production of compost or chipped and ground material
including, but not limited to, clean green material, green
material, animal material, sewage sludge, and mixed solid waste.

1 Feedstocks shall not be considered as either additives or
amendments.

2 (u) "Green Material" means any plant material that is either
3 separated at the point of generation, or separated at a
4 centralized facility that employs methods to minimize
5 contamination. Green material includes, but is not limited to,
6 yard trimmings, plant wastes from the food processing industry,
7 manure, untreated wood wastes, paper products, and natural fiber
8 products. Green material does not include treated wood waste,
9 mixed demolition or mixed construction debris.

6 (v) "Green Material Composting Operation" or "Facility" is an
7 operation or facility that processes only green material and
8 additives and amendments into compost. "Green Material
9 Composting Operation or Facility" does not include an
10 "Agricultural Material Composting Operation."

9 (w) "Insulating Material" means material used for the purpose of
10 minimizing the loss of heat from a compost pile undergoing the
11 "Process to Further Reduce Pathogens" (PFRP), as described in
12 Section 17868.3. Insulating material includes, but is not
13 limited to, soil and stabilized compost.

11 (x) "Manure" means accumulated animal excrement. This
12 definition shall include feces and urine, and any bedding
13 material, spilled feed, or soil that is mixed with feces or
14 urine. If intentionally composted, manure is a subset of green
15 material and is regulated as green material, except as provided
16 in Sections 17855 and 17856. Manure that is inadvertently
17 composted, such as may occur at feedlots, dairies, and poultry
18 farms, is not subject to regulation pursuant to this Chapter.

15 (x2) "Market Product" means feedstock, compost or chipped and
16 ground materials which have been sold, bagged for sale, or
17 beneficially used. Beneficial use includes, but is not limited
18 to, land application at an agronomic rate, land reclamation,
19 slope stabilization, and weed suppression, as determined by the
20 enforcement agency. "Product" does not include organic materials
21 undergoing biological decomposition at a composting operation or
22 facility.

19 (y) "Mixed Solid Waste" means any material that is part of the
20 municipal solid waste stream, and is mixed with or contains
21 non-organics, processed industrial materials, or plastics.

21 (z) "Mixed Solid Waste Composting Facility" is a facility that
22 processes mixed solid waste into compost. A facility that
23 composts sewage sludge, animal material, or green material, in
24 addition to mixed solid waste, shall be considered a mixed solid
25 waste composting facility.

23 (aa) "Operations Area" means the following areas within the
24 boundary of a composting operation or facility:

- 24 (1) equipment cleaning, maintenance, and storage areas;
25 (2) feedstock, active, ~~and~~ stabilizing and stabilized compost
26 processing or stockpiling areas; and
27 (3) process water and stormwater drainage control systems.

26 (bb) "Operator" means the owner, or other person who through a
27 lease, franchise agreement or other arrangement with the owner,
28 becomes legally responsible for the following:

1 (1) complying with regulatory requirements set forth in this
Chapter;

2 (2) complying with all applicable federal, state and local
requirements;

3 (3) the design, construction, and physical operation of the
site; and

4 (4) site restoration.

5 (cc) "Owner" means the person or persons who own, in whole or
in part, a composting operation or facility, or the land on which
a composting process is located.

6 (dd) "Pathogenic Organism" means disease-causing organisms.

7 (ee) "Process Water" means liquid that is generated during or
used in the production of compost.

8 (ff) "Research Composting Operation" means a composting
operation, that is not-for-profit, and is operated for the
purpose of gathering research information on composting.

9 (gg) "Sewage Sludge" means solid, semi-solid, or liquid residue
generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment
10 works. Sewage sludge includes, but is not limited to, domestic
septage and scum or solids removed in primary, secondary, or
11 advanced wastewater treatment processes. Sewage sludge does not
include ash generated during the firing of sewage sludge in a
12 sewage sludge incinerator or grit and screenings generated during
the preliminary treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment
13 works.

14 (hh) "Sewage Sludge Composting Facility" is a facility that
processes only sewage sludge and additives and amendments into
compost product. A facility that composts animal material, or
15 green material, in addition to sewage sludge shall be considered
a sewage sludge composting facility.

16 (ii) "Stabilized Compost" means any organic material that has
undergone the Process to Further Reduce Pathogens (PFRP), as
17 described in Section 17868.3, and has reached a stage of reduced
biological activity as indicated by reduced temperature and rate
18 of respiration below that of active compost.

19 (jj) "Static Pile" means a composting process that is similar
to the aerated static pile except that the air source may or may
not be controlled.

20 (kk) "Vector" includes any insect or other arthropod, rodent,
or other animal capable of transmitting the causative agents of
21 human disease.

22 (ll) "Vermicomposting" means an activity that produces ~~compost~~
worm castings through worm activity. The enforcement agency may
23 determine whether an activity is or is not vermicomposting. The
storage of feedstock to be used in the production of growth
24 medium for worms, feedstock which is being processed to produce
growth medium, and the storage of growth medium is not considered
vermicomposting.

25 (mm) "Windrow Composting Process" means the process in which
compostable material is placed in elongated piles. The piles or
26 "windrows" are aerated and/or mechanically turned on a periodic
basis.

1 (nn) "Within-vessel Composting Process" means a process in
2 which compostable material is enclosed in a drum, silo, bin,
3 tunnel, reactor, or other container for the purpose of producing
4 compost.

5 NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the
6 Public Resources Code.

7 Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.
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1 Article 2. Regulatory Tiers for Composting Operations and
2 Facilities

3 Section 17855. Excluded Activities.

4 (a) The activities listed in this Section do not constitute
5 composting operations or facilities for the purposes of this
6 Chapter and are not required to meet the requirements set forth
7 herein. Nothing in this Section precludes the enforcement agency
8 or the board from inspecting an excluded activity to verify that
9 the activity is being conducted in a manner that qualifies as an
10 excluded activity or from taking any appropriate enforcement
11 action.

12 (1) Residences, parks, community gardens, homeowner
13 associations, universities, schools, hospitals, golf courses,
14 industrial parks, and other similar entities are excluded
15 activities if less than 500 cubic-yards of any combination of
16 green material feedstock, animal material feedstock, and active
17 compost is on-site at any one time.

18 (2) An activity is excluded if it composts green material or
19 animal material, derived from agricultural commodities, and
20 returns a similar amount of the compost produced to that same
21 agricultural source, or an agricultural source owned or leased by
22 the owner, parent, or subsidiary of the composting activity. No
23 more than an incidental amount of up to 2,500 cubic yards of
24 compost product may be given away or sold annually.

25 (3) Chipping and grinding is an excluded activity if 1,000
26 cubic-yards or less of feedstock and chipped and ground material
27 is on-site at any one time or the material is stored for 7 days
28 or less.

(4) Biomass conversion, as defined in Section 40106 of the
Public Resources Code, is an excluded activity.

(5) Vermicomposting is an excluded activity. The storage of
feedstock to be used in the production of growth medium for
worms, feedstock which is being processed to produce growth
medium, and the storage of growth medium is not an excluded
activity.

(6) Storage is an excluded activity if 1,000 cubic yards or
less of feedstock, compost, or chipped and ground material is
on-site at any one time or the material is stored for 7 days or
less.

(7) Storage or handling of market product, as defined in
Section 17852(x2), is an excluded activity.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the
Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

1 **Section 17856. Agricultural Material Composting Operations.**

2 (a) All agricultural material composting operations shall
3 comply with the Enforcement Agency Notification requirements set
4 forth in Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 5.0, Article 3.0
5 (commencing with Section 18100) of the California Code of
6 Regulations, except as otherwise provided by this Chapter.

7 (b) Compost produced by an agricultural material composting
8 operation which uses only agricultural commodities may be sold or
9 given away without restriction.

10 (1) Agricultural material composting operations that compost
11 only agricultural commodities shall be inspected by the
12 enforcement agency at least once every three (3) months, during
13 periods of active composting.

14 (c) Compost produced by an agricultural material composting
15 operation which uses agricultural commodities and clean green
16 material, as specified in Section 17852 (k), shall not sell or
17 give-away more than 1,000 cubic-yards of compost ~~product~~ per
18 year.

19 NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the
20 Public Resources Code.

21 Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

22 **Section 17857. Green Material Composting Operations and
23 Facilities.**

24 (a) A green material composting operation that has up to 1,000
25 cubic yards of feedstock and active compost on-site at any one
26 time shall comply with the Enforcement Agency Notification
27 requirements set forth in Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 5.0,
28 Article 3.0 (commencing with Section 18100) of the California
Code of Regulations.

(b) A green material composting facility that has more than
1,000 cubic yards, but no more than 10,000 cubic yards of
feedstock and active compost on-site at any one time shall obtain
a Registration Permit pursuant to the requirements of Title 14,
Division 7, Chapter 5.0, Article 3.0 of the California Code of
Regulations, prior to commencing operations.

(c) A green material composting facility that has more than
10,000 cubic yards of feedstock and active compost on-site at any
one time shall obtain a Standardized Composting Permit, ~~as found~~
~~in Appendix I~~ (see Appendix A, form CIWMB 5000, which is
incorporated herein by reference), pursuant to the requirements
of Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 5.0, Article 3.0 of the
California Code of Regulations, prior to commencing operations.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the
Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

1 **Section 17858. Animal Material Composting Facilities.**

2 (a) An animal material composting facility that has up to
3 10,000 cubic yards of feedstock and active compost on-site at any
4 one time shall obtain a Registration Permit pursuant to the
5 requirements of Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 5.0, Article 3.0
6 (commencing with Section 18100) of the California Code of
7 Regulations, prior to commencing operations.

8 (b) An animal material composting facility that has more than
9 10,000 cubic yards of feedstock and active compost on-site at any
10 one time shall obtain a Standardized Composting Permit, ~~as found~~
11 ~~in Appendix I~~ (see Appendix A, form CIWMB 5000, which is
12 incorporated herein by reference), pursuant to the requirements
13 of Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 5.0, Article 3.0 of the
14 California Code of Regulations, prior to commencing operations.

15 NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the
16 Public Resources Code.

17 Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

18 **Section 17859. Sewage Sludge Composting Facilities.**

19 (a) A sewage sludge composting facility that has up to 10,000
20 cubic yards of feedstock, which meets Class B requirements,
21 pursuant to Title 40, Chapter I, Subchapter O, Part 503.32 of the
22 Code of Federal Regulations, and active compost on-site at any
23 one time shall obtain a Registration Permit pursuant to the
24 requirements of Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 5.0, Article 3.0
25 (commencing with Section 18100) of the California Code of
26 Regulations, prior to commencing operations.

27 (1) The operator shall obtain records demonstrating that the
28 sewage sludge feedstock is in compliance with Class B
requirements described above.

(b) A sewage sludge composting facility that composts sewage
sludge feedstock which does not meet Class B requirements, or has
more than 10,000 cubic yards of feedstock and active compost
on-site at any one time shall obtain a Standardized Composting
Permit, ~~as found in Appendix I~~ (see Appendix A, form CIWMB 5000,
which is incorporated herein by reference), pursuant to the
requirements of Division 7, Chapter 5.0, Article 3.0 of the
California Code of Regulations, prior to commencing operations.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the
Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.
Title 40, Chapter I, Subchapter O, Part 503, of the Code of
Federal Regulations.

Section 17862.1. Chipping and Grinding.

(a) A chipping and grinding activity that has more than 1,000 cubic yards of feedstock and chipped and ground material on-site at any one time shall comply with Sections 17867(a)(2), 17867(b)(1), and 17869(d).

(b) A chipping and grinding activity shall not be subject to the requirements of Subdivision (a) of this Section if:

(1) The operator maintains records which document that material is not stored on-site for more than 7 days; or,

(2) Animal material or agricultural commodities are located on the agricultural property where the material is generated; or,

(3) The activity is located at an operation or facility that has a tiered or full permit, and the activity is identified and described in the Report of Facility Information; or,

(4) The activity is located at the site of biomass conversion and is for use in biomass conversion.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

Section 17862.2. Storage.

(a) The storage of more than 1,000 cubic yards of feedstock, compost, or chipped and ground material on-site, excluding market product, shall comply with Sections 17867(a)(2), 17867(b)(1), and 17869(d), unless explicitly excluded pursuant to Section 17855 of this Chapter.

(b) A storage activity shall not be subject to the requirements of Subdivision (a) of this Section if:

(1) The operator maintains records which document that material is not stored on-site for more than 7 days; or,

(2) Animal material or agricultural commodities, are located on the agricultural property where the material is generated; or,

(3) The activity is located at an operation or facility that has a tiered or full permit, and the activity is identified and described in the Report of Facility Information; or,

(4) The activity is located at the site of biomass conversion and is for use in biomass conversion; or

(5) The activity is solely for the storage of sewage sludge at a Publicly Operated Treatment Works (POTW).

(c) Composting to solely produce growth medium for worms is not subject to the permitting requirements of this Chapter.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

1 Article 3. Report of Facility Information

2 Section 17863. Report of Composting Site Information.

3 Each operator of a composting facility that is required to obtain
4 a Standardized or Full Solid Waste Facilities Permit, as
5 specified in Article 2 of this Chapter, shall, at the time of
6 application, file a Report of Composting Site Information with
7 the enforcement agency. If the operator intends to alter the
8 permitted feedstock, these changes must be reported to the
9 enforcement agency for maintenance of permit status. Such
10 changes may become the basis for revisions to the permit or for
11 revocation of the permit. A Report of Composting Site
12 Information shall contain the following:

13 (a) A description of the composting processes to be used,
14 including estimated quantities of feedstocks, additives, and
15 amendments.

16 (b) A descriptive statement of the operations conducted at the
17 facility.

18 (c) A schematic drawing of the facility showing layout and
19 general dimensions of all processes utilized in the production
20 of compost including, but not limited to, unloading, storage,
21 processing, parking, and loading areas.

22 (d) A description of the proposed methods used to control
23 litter, odors, dust, rodents, and insects.

24 (e) A description of the proposed emergency provisions for
25 equipment breakdown or power failure.

26 (f) A description of the storage capacity and anticipated
27 maximum and average length of time compost will be stored at the
28 facility.

(g) A description of compost equipment used at the facility
including type, capacity, and number of units.

(h) Anticipated annual operation capacity for the facility in
cubic-yards.

(i) A description of provisions to handle unusual peak
loadings.

(j) A description of the proposed method for storage and final
disposal of nonrecoverable or nonmarketable residues.

(k) A description of the water supplies for process water
required.

(l) Identification of person(s) responsible for oversight of
facility operations.

(m) A description of the proposed site restoration activities,
in accordance with Section 17870 of this Chapter.

Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020 and 43021 of the Public
Resources Code

Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

Article 6. Composting Operating Standards

Section 17867. General Operating Standards.

(a) All composting operations and facilities shall meet the following requirements:

(1) The composting of mammalian flesh, organs, unprocessed hide, blood, bone, and marrow is prohibited, except when from the residential sector or food service industry. Carcasses of animals with any contagious disease shall not be composted, unless approved in writing by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Animal Industry.

(2) All composting activities shall be conducted in a manner that minimizes vectors, odor impacts, litter, hazards, nuisances, and noise impacts; and minimizes human contact with, inhalation, ingestion, and transportation of dust, particulates, and pathogenic organisms.

(3) Random load checks of feedstocks, additives, and amendments for contaminants shall be conducted.

(4) Contamination of compost ~~product~~ that has undergone pathogen reduction, pursuant to Section 17868.3 of this Chapter, with feedstocks, compost, or wastes that have not undergone pathogen reduction, pursuant to Section 17868.3 of this Chapter, or additives shall be prevented.

(5) Unauthorized human or animal access to the facility shall be prevented.

(6) Traffic flow into, on, and out of the composting operation or facility shall be controlled in a safe manner.

(7) All composting operations and facilities, that are open for public business, shall post legible signs at all public entrances. These signs shall include the following information:

(A) name of the operation or facility,

(B) name of the operator,

(C) facility hours of operation,

(D) materials that will and will not be accepted, if applicable,

(E) schedule of charges, if applicable, and

(F) phone number where operator or designee can be reached in case of an emergency.

(b) All composting facilities shall meet the following requirements:

(1) The operator shall provide fire prevention, protection and control measures, including, but not limited to, temperature monitoring of windrows and piles, adequate water supply for fire suppression, and the isolation of potential ignition sources from combustible materials. A firelane of a minimum of 12 feet in width, shall be provided to allow access to all operation areas.

(2) The operator shall provide telephone or radio communication capability for emergency purposes.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

Article 7. Environmental Health Standards

Section 17868.1. Sampling Requirements.

All composting operations that sell or give away greater than 2,500 cubic yards of compost annually, and all facilities shall meet the following requirements:

(a) Operators shall verify that compost meets the maximum acceptable metal concentration limits specified in Section 17868.2, and pathogen reduction requirements specified in Section 17868.3, ~~are met when the compost product leaves the operation or facility boundaries.~~ Verification of pathogen reduction requirements shall occur as close as possible to the point at which compost is sold, bagged for sale, or beneficially used. This verification shall be performed by taking and analyzing at least one composite sample of compost ~~product~~, following the requirements of this Section as follows:

(1) An operator who composts green material, animal material, or mixed solid waste shall take and analyze one composite sample for every 5,000 cubic-yards of compost produced.

(2) An operator who composts sewage sludge shall meet the sampling schedule described in Table 1 below.

Table 1 - Frequencies of Compost ~~Product~~ Sampling for Sewage Sludge Composting Facilities

Amount of sewage sludge compost feedstock (metric tons per 365 day period)	Frequency
Greater than zero but fewer than 290	annually
Equal to or greater than 290 but fewer than 1,500	quarterly
Equal to or greater than 1,500 but fewer than 15,000	bimonthly
Equal to or greater than 15,000	monthly

(A) The amount of sewage sludge compost feedstock shall be calculated in dry weight metric tons.

1 (3) Composite sample analysis for maximum acceptable metal
2 concentrations, specified in Section 17868.2, shall be conducted
3 at a laboratory certified by the California Department of Health
4 Services, pursuant to the Health and Safety Code.

5 (b) A composite sample shall consist of twelve (12) mixed
6 samples.

7 (1) The twelve samples shall be of equal volume.

8 (2) The twelve samples shall be extracted from within the
9 compost pile as follows:

10 (A) Four samples from one-half the horizontal width of the
11 pile, each at a different cross-section;

12 (B) Four samples from one-fourth the horizontal width of the
13 pile, each at a different cross-section; and,

14 (C) Four samples from one-eighth the horizontal width of the
15 pile, each at a different cross-section.

16 NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the
17 Public Resources Code.

18 Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.
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1 **Section 17868.2. Maximum Metal Concentrations.**

2 Compost ~~product~~ that contains any metal in amounts that exceed
3 the maximum acceptable metal concentrations shown in Table 2
4 shall be designated for disposal, additional processing, or other
5 use as approved by state or federal agencies having appropriate
6 jurisdiction.

7 **Table 2 - Maximum Acceptable Metal Concentrations**

Constituent	Concentration (mg/kg) on dry weight basis
Arsenic (As)	41
Cadmium (Cd)	39
Chromium (Cr)	1200
Copper (Cu)	1500
Lead (Pb)	300
Mercury (Hg)	17
Nickel (Ni)	420
Selenium (Se)	36
Zinc (Zn)	2800

13 NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the
14 Public Resources Code.
15 Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

16 **Section 17868.3. Pathogen Reduction.**

17 (a) Compost ~~product~~ that contains pathogens in amounts that
18 exceed the maximum acceptable pathogen concentrations described
19 in Subdivision (b) of this Section shall be designated for
20 disposal, additional processing, or other use as approved by
21 state or federal agencies having appropriate jurisdiction.

22 (b) Operators that produce compost shall ensure that:

23 (1) The density of fecal coliform in ~~the~~ compost ~~product~~, that
24 is or has at one time been active compost, shall be less than
25 1,000 Most Probable Number per gram of total solids (dry weight
26 basis), or the density of *Salmonella* sp. bacteria in compost
27 shall be less than three (3) Most Probable Number per four (4)
28 grams of total solids (dry weight basis).

(2) At enclosed or within-vessel compost operations and
facilities, active compost shall be maintained at a temperature
of 55 degrees Celsius (131 degrees Fahrenheit) or higher for a
pathogen reduction period of 3 days.

(A) Due to variations among enclosed and within-vessel
composting system designs, including tunnels, the operator shall
submit a system-specific temperature monitoring plan with the
permit application to meet the requirements of Subdivision

(b) (2) of this Section.

1 (3) If the operation or facility uses a windrow composting
2 process, active compost shall be maintained under aerobic
3 conditions at a temperature of 55 degrees Celsius (131 degrees
4 Fahrenheit) or higher for a pathogen reduction period of 15 days
5 or longer. During the period when the compost is maintained at
6 55 degrees Celsius or higher, there shall be a minimum of five

7 (5) turnings of the windrow.

8 (4) If the operation or facility uses an aerated static pile
9 composting process, all active compost shall be covered with 6 to
10 12 inches of insulating material, and the active compost shall be
11 maintained at a temperature of 55 degrees Celsius (131 degrees
12 Fahrenheit) or higher for a pathogen reduction period of 3 days.

13 (c) Alternative methods of compliance to meet the requirements of
14 Subdivision (b) of this Section may be approved by the
15 enforcement agency if the enforcement agency determines that the
16 alternative method will provide equivalent pathogen reduction.

17 (d) Compost operations and facilities shall be monitored as
18 follows to ensure that the standards in Subdivision (b) of this
19 Section are met:

20 (1) Each day during the pathogen reduction period, at least one
21 temperature reading shall be taken per every 150 feet of windrow,
22 or fraction thereof, or for every 200 cubic-yards of active
23 compost, or fraction thereof.

24 (2) Temperature measurements for pathogen reduction shall be
25 measured as follows:

26 (A) Windrow composting processes and agitated bays shall be
27 monitored twelve (12) to twenty-four (24) inches below the pile
28 surface;

(B) Aerated static pile composting processes shall be monitored
twelve (12) to eighteen (18) inches from the point where the
insulation cover meets the active compost.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the
Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.

1 Article 8. Composting Operation and Facility Records

2 Section 17869. General Record Keeping Requirements.

3 All composting operations and facilities shall meet the
4 following requirements:

5 (a) All records required by this Chapter shall be kept in one
6 location and accessible for five (5) years and shall be available
7 for inspection by authorized representatives of the board,
8 enforcement agency, local health entity, and other duly
9 authorized regulatory and enforcement agencies during normal
10 working hours.

11 (b) The operator shall record any special occurrences
12 encountered during operation and methods used to resolve problems
13 arising from these events, including details of all incidents
14 that required implementing emergency procedures.

15 (c) The operator shall record any public complaints received by
16 the operator, including:

17 (1) the nature of the complaint,

18 (2) the date the complaint was received,

19 (3) if available, the name, address, and telephone number of
20 the person or persons making the complaint, and

21 (4) any actions taken to respond to the complaint.

22 (d) The operator shall record the quantity and type of
23 feedstock received and quantity of compost and chipped and ground
24 material produced.

25 (e) The operator shall record the number of load checks
26 performed and loads rejected.

27 (f) The operator shall record all test results generated by
28 compliance with Article 7 of this Chapter, including but not
limited to, metal concentrations, fecal coliform and *Salmonella*
sp. densities, temperature measurements, and dates of windrow
turnings.

(1) The operator shall retain records detailing pathogen
reduction methods.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 40502, 43020, and 43021 of the
Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 43020 and 43021 of the Public Resources Code.